HOW LICENSURE AND ENDORSEMENTS WORK: QUICK STUDY Fine Arts Elementary Specialist and Secondary Endorsements

Licensure is always the **first** issue to address . . . why? ...Because endorsements have to attach to a specific license.

Licensure Routes: A university program or ARL (Alternative Route to Licensure)

- ARL process:
 a) A college degree in the subject area
- b) Application to ARL
- c) Get hired to teach the subject
- d) Get accepted in the ARL program
- e) Complete all education classes and any deficiencies in the subject area for the endorsement

Why are specific endorsements required for every course taught? Legally, so every teacher has the credentials the Board rules stipulate; practically, to set up students and teachers for success; philosophically, to maintain high and competitive educational standards.

Endorsement Routes:

- a) Submit the completed endorsement portfolio application materials to licensure and be approved.
- b) If currently hired to teach the subject, get an SAEP (State Approved Endorsement Plan). This is done by submitting the completed endorsement portfolio application to licensure for evaluation. If the applicant has at least 9 university credits of the required program completed, entrance is granted and the SAEP for completion is prescribed. For every year there is adequate progress in completing the SAEP, another year is granted for up to 3 years, and in extenuating circumstances, 4 years. (ARL route includes the endorsement.)

Matching Endorsements with the right License:

- a) Elementary Specialist (Level II) endorsements can only attach to an elementary license.
- b) Secondary endorsements (6-12 and K-12) can only attach to a secondary license.
- c) Those with a 6-12 endorsement who want to teach at the elementary level need to complete the Elementary Specialist endorsement. When completed, it is combined with the 6-12 so they have a K-12 endorsement. This is done because the Elementary Specialist endorsement will not attach to their secondary license.